

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of removing a polyp from a surface comprising:  
manipulating a conductive hook around the polyp;  
5 engaging the polyp with said conductive hook; and  
severing the polyp from said surface by discharging electrical energy from said  
conductive hook into the polyp.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein engaging the polyp comprises retracting said  
10 conductive hook about the polyp until said conductive hook engages a stem of the polyp.
3. The method of claim 2 wherein retracting said conductive hook about the polyp  
comprises retracting at least a portion of said conductive hook into a sheath.
- 15 4. The method of claim 1 wherein severing the polyp includes cauterizing the polyp  
and the surface.
5. The method of claim 1 further comprising retracting at least a portion of said  
conductive hook into a sheath after severing the polyp from the surface.  
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6. The method of claim 5 wherein retracting at least a portion of said conductive  
hook into said sheath comprises encasing said conductive hook with said sheath.

7. The method of claim 5 wherein retracting at least a portion of said conductive hook into said sheath comprises inserting a tip of said conductive hook into an opening in said sheath.
- 5 8. The method of claim 5 wherein the polyp is removed from an inner lining of an internal cavity.
9. The method of claim 8 wherein removing the severed polyp from the internal cavity comprises applying suction to the severed polyp.
- 10 10. The method of claim 1 including removing the polyp from a colon.
11. The method of claim 1 wherein said hook is movable relative to a terminal end of a sheath, and wherein the procedure for removing the polyp includes extending said  
15 hook from the terminal end of said sheath such that an open space exists between a terminal end of said hook and the terminal end of said sheath; and passing the polyp through the opening between the terminal end of said hook and the terminal end of said sheath.
- 20 12. The method of claim 11 wherein after the polyp has been passed between the opening between the terminal end of said hook and the terminal end of said sheath, moving said hook towards the terminal end of said sheath and engaging the polyp with said hook as said hook moves towards the terminal end of said sheath.

13. The method of claim 11 further comprising retracting said hook with respect to said sheath such that the terminal end of said hook is inserted into an opening formed in said sheath.

14. A polyp surgical device for removing a polyp from a surface comprising:  
a sheath;  
a polyp severing head extending from a first end of said sheath and movable  
relative thereto; and  
5 wherein the polyp severing head includes a conductive hook for engaging the  
polyp and for discharging electrical energy into the engaged polyp.

15. The polyp surgical device of claim 14 further comprising a manual controller for  
controlling the relative motion between said polyp-severing head and said sheath.

10 16. The polyp surgical device of claim 15 further comprising an electrical connection  
extending from said manual controller to connect said conductive hook to an electrical  
supply.

15 17. The polyp surgical device of claim 14 wherein said conductive hook is adapted to  
engage and hook around a stem of the polyp proximate the surface.

18. The polyp surgical device of claim 14 wherein said sheath comprises a vacuum  
chamber for applying suction to a polyp removed from the surface.

20 19. The polyp surgical device of claim 14 wherein the hook includes a tip and  
wherein said first end of said sheath comprises an opening for receiving and holding  
said tip of said conductive hook after retracting at least a portion of said conductive hook  
into said sheath.

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20. The polyp surgical device of claim 14 wherein said conductive hook comprises a conductive hook made of a flexible metal.

21. The polyp surgical device of claim 14 wherein said sheath includes a terminal  
5 end and said hook includes a tip, and wherein said hook projects from the terminal end of said sheath, the polyp surgical device further comprising a controller for moving said hook back and forth relative to the terminal end of said sheath, wherein said hook may assume an open position where the tip of said hook is spaced from the terminal end of  
10 said sheath so as to define an opening therebetween for permitting a polyp to pass therethrough as said polyp surgical device is positioned around the polyp for removal of the polyp.

22. A method of removing a polyp from a surface comprising:  
opening a pair of conductive forceps proximate the polyp;  
manipulating the inner edges of said open conductive forceps around the polyp;  
engaging the polyp by closing said conductive forceps around the polyp; and  
5 severing the polyp from the surface by discharging electrical energy from said  
conductive forceps into the polyp.
23. The method of claim 22 wherein engaging the polyp comprises closing said  
conductive forceps until said inner edges of said conductive forceps engage a stem of  
10 the polyp.
24. The method of claim 22 wherein the surface comprises an inner lining of an  
internal cavity, and the method comprises removing the polyp from the internal cavity.
- 15 25. The method of claim 24 wherein removing the severed polyp from the internal  
cavity comprises applying suction to the severed polyp.
26. The method of claim 24 including removing the polyp from a colon.

27. A polyp surgical device for removing a polyp from a surface comprising:  
a sheath;  
a polyp severing head extending from a first end of said sheath; and  
wherein said polyp severing head includes a pair of forceps for engaging the  
5 polyp, said forceps including conductive opposing surfaces.
28. The polyp surgical device of claim 27 further comprising a manual controller  
extending from a second end of said sheath for opening and closing said forceps.
- 10 29. The polyp surgical device of claim 28 wherein said manual controller manipulates  
the forceps to engage said conductive opposing surfaces with a stem of the polyp  
proximate the surface.
30. The polyp surgical device of claim 28 further comprising an electrical connection  
15 extending from said controller to connect said forceps to an electrical supply.
31. The polyp surgical device of claim 27 wherein said sheath comprises a vacuum  
chamber for applying suction to a polyp removed from the surface.
- 20 32. The polyp surgical device of claim 27 wherein said forceps comprise conductive  
material.
33. The polyp surgical device of claim 27 wherein when said forceps assume a  
closed position, some portion of said opposing surfaces form an open channel.